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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WASHINGTON, DC 20510~6350

March 28, 2003

BY FACSIMILE: (202) 219-1243
ORIGINAL VIA U.S. MAIL
The Honorable Stephen A. Perry
Administrator
General Services Administration
18th and F Streets, N.W.
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Perry:

On March 18, 2003, I called a hearing in the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship to examine contract bundling. During the hearing the witnesses discussed possible solutions that best utilize Federal contract dollars while ensuring the ability of small businesses to compete for those dollars. In addition, the hearing provided an opportunity to hear directly from Administration officials and small business owners on the President's "Strategy for Increasing Federal Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses."

During the hearing, I learned that several agencies, including yours, had difficulty complying with the President's order to submit, to the Office of Management and Budget, first quarter reports, on the status of agency efforts to address contract bundling. These reports are critical to the Administration's ability to monitor contract bundling trends and adjust contract processes as warranted.

As Chair of this Committee, I have a vested interest in the programs that Federal agencies provide to encourage small business participation in the procurement process. Your agency's failure to meet the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline, which was extended to February 18<sup>th</sup> concerns me greatly. Accordingly, I urge you to submit your agency's report as quickly as possible.

I would also appreciate your informing me with the date the report will be filed; an explanation for the delay; and, the steps you are taking to ensure that the Agency's second quarter report will be filed timely. Please submit this information to the Committee by April 7, 2003.

Thank you for your attention to this request. If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff call Nancyellen Gentile, Professional Staff Member of the Small Business Committee, at (202) 224-5175.

Olympia J. Snowe

Chair